

EMPIRE DAY

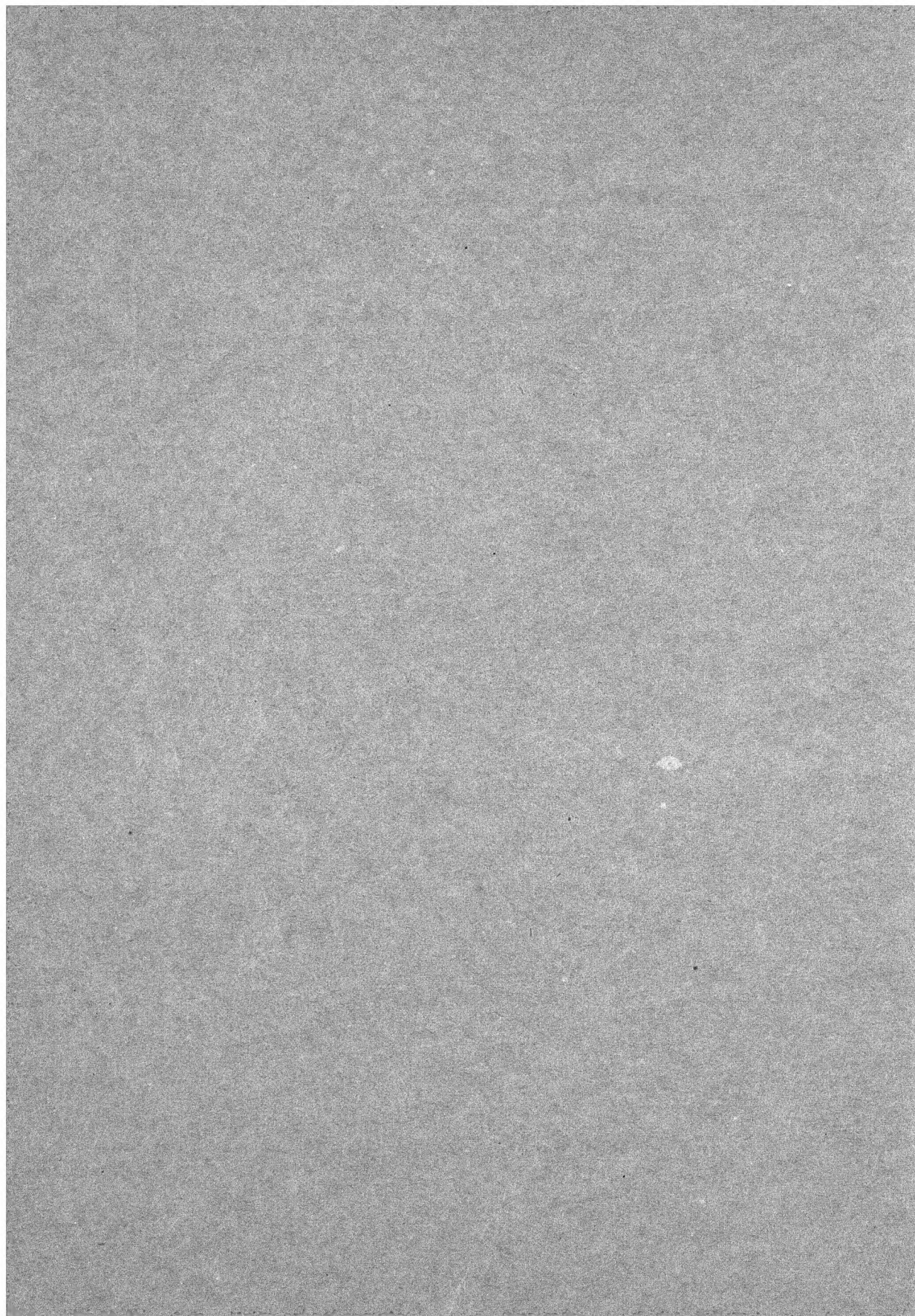
1920



"No easy hopes or lies
Shall bring us to our goal,
But iron sacrifice
Of body, will and soul."

—*Kipling*

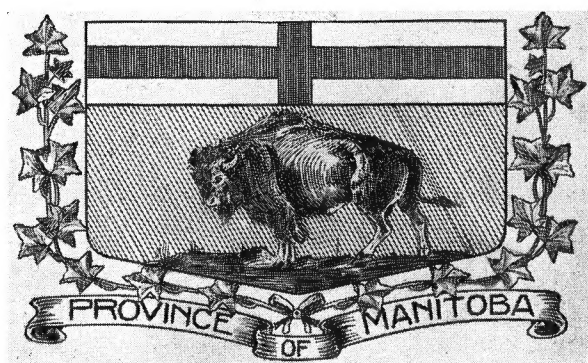
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Winnipeg, Manitoba



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MANITOBA

Fifty Years a Province



1870 - 1920



H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF CANADA

He came, he saw, he conquered

8756

EMPIRE DAY, 1920



The year 1920 is important in the history of this Province of Manitoba, marking, as it does, three memorable anniversaries.

On May second will be celebrated the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Hudson's Bay Company which, immediately after its organization, began to carry on trading and fur industries in the territory then known as Prince Rupert's Land, and now represented by the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. This Company is today the oldest chartered company in the world, having carried on its business continuously during these two and a half centuries.

Over one hundred years ago Lord Selkirk, then Chairman of the Hudson's Bay Company, established a colony on the shores of the Red River, bringing his settlers from the western highlands of Scotland and the Orkney Islands. The descendants of these sturdy pioneers who laid the foundation of Manitoba's real development are with us today, and taking active part in the life and industry of this Province. Lord Selkirk died on April 8th, 1820, so that this year marks the hundredth anniversary of his death.

On the fifteenth day of July, 1870, Manitoba was formally constituted a Province of the Dominion of Canada. This year the Province celebrates its fiftieth anniversary. During these fifty years the population has increased from 12,000 to more than 600,000 and the Province has assumed a foremost place in agriculture, industry and social development. Fifty years ago we had the trading post of Fort Garry. Today we have the City of Winnipeg, the third in size in the Dominion of Canada and bidding fair to become one of the great cities of the continent.

Our Empire Day pamphlet gives an account of this history and development, enabling us to realize in some degree the contribution which Manitoba has made to the building of Canada and the extension of the British Empire.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R. S. Huntington".

Minister of Education.

Winnipeg, May 23rd, 1920.



HENRY HUDSON

"I cannot rest from travel"

MANITOBA'S GOLDEN BIRTHDAY



Manitoba, the first province to enter Confederation after the federal union of the original four, celebrates its fiftieth birthday on July 15th, 1920. The Manitoba Act was passed by the first Dominion Parliament, and assented to by the Governor-General on May 12th, 1870, but it did not come into force until July 15th. The Hudson's Bay Company surrendered its rights, receiving from the Canadian Government the sum of \$1,500,000.00.

On May 2nd, 1920, we celebrate the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the granting of the Royal Charter to the "Honourable Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay." The Hudson's Bay Company is the oldest continuously active trading corporation in the world. While its head office is in London, England, its trading headquarters are in the Province of Manitoba, which now comprises the greater portion of the original Rupert's Land of the charter.

A third date of importance is April 8th, 1920, the hundredth anniversary of the death of the Earl of Selkirk, the founder of the Red River Settlement.

And August 24th of this year is the fiftieth anniversary of the landing of the Wolseley Expedition at Point Douglas. The troops advanced to Fort Garry and Riel fled. They immediately took possession, establishing their headquarters on the site of the future City of Winnipeg.



SIEUR DE LA VERENDRYE

"Under all his difficulties, he had explored a vast region hitherto unknown, diverted a great and lucrative fur-trade from the English at Hudson Bay, and secured possession of it by six fortified posts,—Fort St. Pierre, on Rainy Lake; Fort St. Charles, on the Lake of the Woods; Fort Maurepas, at the mouth of the river Winnipeg; Fort Bourbon, on the eastern side of Lake Winnipeg; Fort La Reine, on the Assiniboine; Fort Dauphin, on Lake Manitoba. Besides these he built another post, called Fort Rouge, on the site of the city of Winnipeg; and, some time after, another at the mouth of the river Poskoiac, or Saskatchewan, neither of which, however, was long occupied."—*Parkman, A Half Century of Conflict.*

The Story of Manitoba --- Early History

"Never had a people more or richer sources of encouragement and inspiration."

I.

Everyone has a birthday. Even countries keep these special anniversaries, but generally the actual birthday of a nation is so lost in the mists of history that some great national event is celebrated instead, just as we celebrate May 24th, the birthday of Queen Victoria, a day which first became an Empire holiday after her Golden Jubilee in 1887. Our own Manitoba has, however, a real birthday, and this province will be fifty years old on July 15th, 1920.

The Act which created the Province was passed by the first Dominion Parliament and assented to by Lord Lisgar, then Governor-General of Canada, on May 12th, 1870, but it did not come into force until June 23rd, 1870, when an Order-in-Council was passed putting it into effect on July 15th, of that year. Owing to events connected with the rebellion under Louis Riel, of which more will be told later, the authority of the Government of Canada was not recognized until Colonel Wolseley and an Imperial force of 400 regular troops landed at Point Douglas on the morning of August 24th, 1870. The first Governor of Manitoba, the Hon. A. G. Archibald, did not arrive until September 2nd, and in the meantime, Mr. Donald Smith, better known to us as Lord Strathcona, was appointed as acting governor to administer civil law and keep order in the new Province.

The name Manitoba is a combination of two Indian words, Manitou, or the Great Spirit, and Waba, the name given the Narrows of Lake Manitoba. The word Waba really means Voice and was applied to a curious sound caused by the water at an island near the Narrows where the waves rattle the thousands of flat stones on the shore. The spot was avoided by the Indians who believed the sound to be God's voice. An earlier name for the country was "Rupert's Land," after Prince Rupert, the Cavalier, a founder and the first governor of the Hudson's Bay Company.

The earliest European explorers preceded the Hudson's Bay Company by about half a century but Manitoba was an ancient land thousands of years before that. Part of it, to the east and north of the lakes, contains some of the oldest rocks in the world, full of mineral wealth. The prairie section south and west, consists of a country once covered by a great glacial lake, of which Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba were deeper areas. Old settlers between the lakes tell of how the water once covered what are now flourishing grain fields. Lake Manitoba is today very shallow, and will gradually become smaller.

The earliest Manitobans were a primitive race of mound builders, who had knowledge of copper as well as of stone weapons and tools. They either perished or migrated southward, and may have been the ancestors of the great race which afterwards inhabited Mexico, and developed a high degree of civilization both there and in Peru. But this is pure conjecture. All that we are certain of is that these people once lived here, and have left behind many wonderful stone tools, arrow heads, copper tools and ornaments. Following them came three great Indian nations—the Crees, a branch of the Algonquin race, the Chippewas or Ojibways of the same stock, and the Assiniboines, a branch of the famous Sioux. The Sataux tribe were also driven into south-eastern Manitoba between 1736 and 1763. Early records of the number of Indians are very unreliable. It must be remembered that the tribes moved about over vast expanses of country. In 1870 an estimate was made of the Indian population of the Province, giving their number as only 500, although according to the reports of the Hudson's Bay Factors some 40,000 traded at their Rupert's Land posts.

The early Europeans who explored parts of Manitoba were Henry Hudson, Sir Thomas Button (1610 and 1612), Captains Luke Foxe of London, and Thomas James of Bristol in 1631, and Gilliam in 1668. These came by sea through Hudson Bay and James Bay. They explored the coast line and some of the rivers but did not venture far inland. Some day we may yet discover in the far north the bones of Henry Hudson and his crew. Overland came Pierre Gaultier de Varennes, Sieur de la Verendrye (1685-1749), the first white man to dip his paddle into the waters of the Red River, who established a fort near the mouth of the Assiniboine, crossed Lake Winnipeg and made his way up the Saskatchewan River; Pierre Radisson and Chouart Groseillers, two young Frenchmen who penetrated the prairies and reached the shores of Hudson Bay from the land side, and the explorer Duluth, with possibly a few Jesuit missionaries.

And we must not forget the famous Sir John Franklin, whose fate, like that of Henry Hudson, still remains a mystery. Franklin's loss stirred up British interest in our northern seas, and led to several expeditions in search of him. Memories of Franklin still haunt the old sun dials at Norway House and other points in Manitoba. Sir John began his explorations in northern Manitoba in 1820, a hundred years ago.

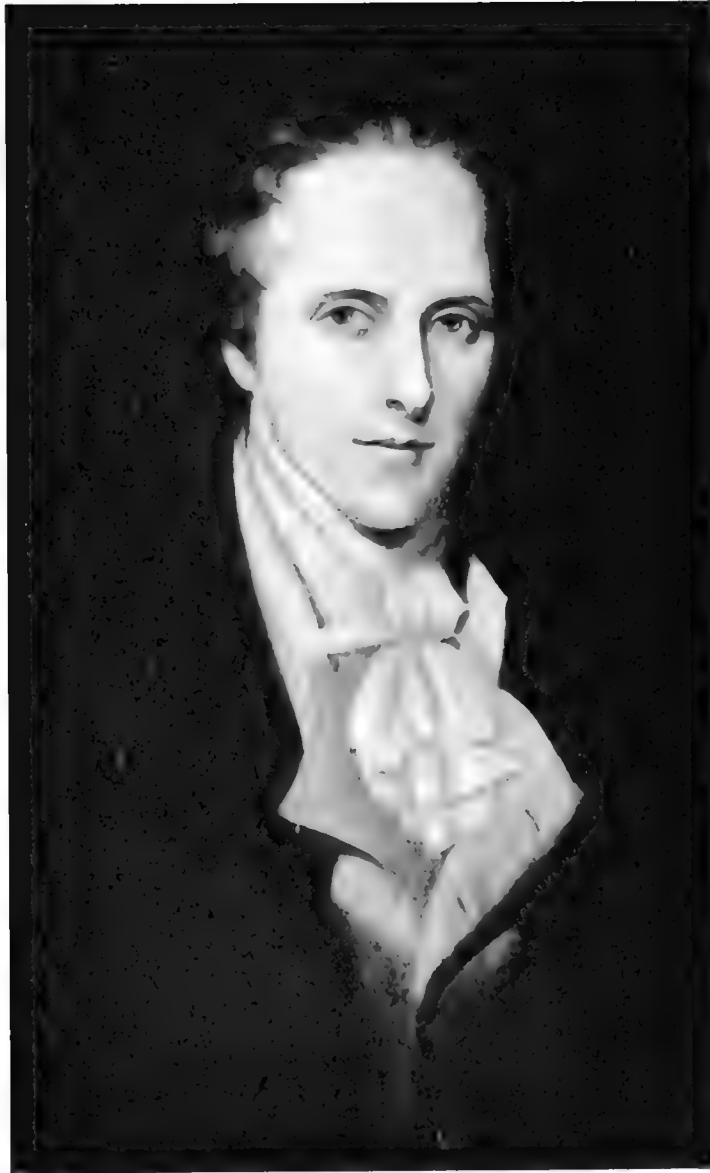
The Selkirk Settlers

The French hunters and trappers, the explorers, and the hardy Scottish adventurers of the Hudson's Bay Company, who married Indian women and whose children formed the half-breed population, a considerable portion of the inhabitants of Manitoba in 1870, are romantic figures in the history of the province, but the pioneer homesteaders of Manitoba, whose descendants are today amongst our foremost citizens, were the famous Selkirk Settlers.

Lord Selkirk, the founder of the settlement, was one of the shareholders of the Hudson's Bay Company. To carry out his colonization plans he made arrangements whereby he secured forty per cent. of the capital stock of the Company. The land grant he obtained was 116,000 square miles on the banks of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, a tract about nine times the size of the original province of Manitoba. This great man, whose monolithic statue adorns one of the entrances of the New Parliament Building, had a prophet's vision of our future. From the very start he had to contend with all sorts of trouble and dissatisfaction among the colonists, and discouraging conditions in the country, but he persevered, and the Manitoba of today is the justification of his faith.

Lord Selkirk's Settlers, sometimes called the "Pilgrim Fathers" of our province, made their way here in small sailing boats from the north of Scotland and the Orkney Isles, and landed on the shores of the Hudson Bay. In their York boats they came up the dangerous Hayes River, with its rapids and portages, into Lake Winnipeg, and after traversing the lake and giving their name to one of the most northerly islands, they ascended the Red River to Kildonan. The first party of settlers arrived on the banks of the Red River August 30th, 1812, and spent the first winter near Pembina in search of buffalo. They returned in the spring and each family received 100 acres of land. The only payment required was two days free labor a year. The Indians called the newcomers the "Gardeners," and they indeed turned this land into a garden in spite of the jest of those who for many years described it as a barren waste unfit for cultivation.

The early history of the settlers is the history of the conflict between the two rival trading companies, the Hudson's Bay and the Nor'-Westers. The first colony was broken up by the Nor'-Westers, who seized all provisions, killed one man and eventually captured Fort Douglas. Some of the settlers then entered the service of the Hudson's Bay Company, others returned to Jack River on Lake Winnipeg or to York Factory,



LORD SELKIRK

"True, he had the prophet's vision, and he saw
The land to be."

and some to York (now Toronto), but in 1815 the colony was re-established. Governor Semple took the place of Governor Miles Macdonnell who had been captured by the Nor'-Westers. A band of Indians and half-breeds of the Nor'-Westers, on June 19th, 1816, attacked Governor Semple and his party of twenty-seven men of the Hudson's Bay Company who had sallied out from Fort Douglas to intercept them, and in the fight which ensued the Governor and his men suffered severely, twenty-one being killed or wounded. Governor Semple, who was wounded in the struggle, was killed by an Indian after the fight, and many of the casualties were scalped and mutilated. This terrible bloodshed took place at a point on North Main Street, Winnipeg, now marked by a monument and known as Seven Oaks. The fort surrendered and again the settlers left the colony for Jack River where most of them remained until the following year. One Nor'-Wester was killed and one wounded in this affray.

But the Nor'-Westers had gone too far. Lord Selkirk, who was in the east, gathered up about one hundred soldiers, and sailed from Sault Ste. Marie to Fort William, which he captured, taking into custody the leaders of the rival company. On May 1st, 1817, he left Fort William and following the water courses arrived at Fort Douglas in the last week of June. Ruinous legal fights followed. These were settled eventually by the amalgamation of the two companies, negotiations for which were opened in 1820 and concluded the following year. The combined capital was made \$1,250,000, of which \$750,000 went to the Hudson's Bay Company and \$500,000 to the trading partners of the Nor'-West Company. From this time forward the Hudson's Bay Company whose name and charter were retained, became a great and prosperous organization.

Meanwhile the little colony went on growing and increasing. Life was much simpler in those times, and the high cost of living, despite the high price of everything brought in from the outside, did not trouble the people very much. It took so long to bring goods from England via the Hudson Bay or from Eastern Canada, that the colony of necessity became practically self-sustaining. The hoe and the spade did duty for the plough. The sickle and the flail were used to take off and thresh the scanty crops. The women were expert in the use of their spinning wheels. The buffalo which roamed the plains, vast herds often taking a whole day to pass a given point, furnished meat in abundance and robes for the winter. The buffalo hunts were of more importance to the settlers of those days than were the field and garden crops. We are told of one hunt in 1840 where 2,500 animals were killed. On another occasion the hunters consisted of 630 men, 650 women and 360 boys and girls, a total of 1,630 souls. The children each received an English pound as wages for their work. The total invested for wages, camp equipment, supplies and ammunition in a single hunt is estimated to have been nearly \$120,000.

There have been sometimes as many as 1,200 carts on these excursions. The Red River carts of those days were built entirely of wood and the tools used in the making were the saw, the auger and the draw-knife. A score of these vehicles creaking across the prairie made a noise that could be heard for miles.

As a protection for the settlers many forts had been built. In 1735 Fort Maurepas was built at the mouth of the Winnipeg River. In 1738 Fort la Reine was built near Portage la Prairie and the same year Fort Rouge appeared on the bank of the Assiniboine. Others of the old Manitoba forts are Fort Churchill, Fort Nelson and Norway House. The latter, at the head of Lake Winnipeg, was at one time the annual meeting place of the Governor and his Council.

Old Fort Garry was the seat of government. It had been erected in 1821, after which Fort Douglas, rebuilt in 1815, was abandoned. Fort Garry was named after Nicholas Garry, a director of the Hudson's Bay Company. The old fort was a wooden building on the point. The new Fort Garry, of stone, was built in 1836-38. Only the gateway now remains. The site of Fort Douglas was sold to Robert Logan and some of the buildings



THE RED RIVER CART—THE TRANSPORT OF 1870

were still occupied by him in 1854. Not a stone of it now remains and its site has been almost washed away. Fort Gibraltar, erected in 1804 by the Nor'-West Company, faced the Red River at a point close to where the old Fort Garry used to stand. It was surrounded by a stockade 15 feet high and was destroyed by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1816. Lower Fort Garry, erected 1839-41, still stands as good as ever. It was used by Sir George Simpson.

The first minister to serve the Red River colonists was Mr. James Sutherland. He was not an ordained man, but he married and baptized the people and expounded the scriptures until the arrival of Rev. John West, who sailed from Gravesend on May 27th, 1820, but did not reach the Red River until October 14th of that year. The first Roman Catholic clergyman to settle in the country was Bishop Provencher, who came in 1818 and soon after built the first cathedral at St. Boniface. He was accompanied by Rev. S. Dumoulin. In 1838 Mr. James Leith, a chief factor of the Hudson's Bay Company, bequeathed \$60,000 for the English Church in Rupert's Land, and to this the Hudson's Bay Company added an endowment of \$1,500 annually, the first bishop of Rupert's Land being Rev. David Anderson, who arrived in 1849 and established his cathedral on the site of the first church built by Mr. West, where St. John's Cathedral now stands. The site of St. John's Cathedral had been donated to the Scotch settlers by Lord Selkirk. The settlers were Presbyterians, and it was not until 1850 that the resulting dispute was settled. The Presbyterians were granted a site a few miles further down the river, at what was known as Frog Plain, and the sum of \$750 towards the erection of a building. Meanwhile no Presbyterian clergyman could be obtained until September 19th, 1851, when Rev. John Black arrived.

The history of education in the province is closely associated with the story of the church. The earliest school of the Red River valley was established in 1818 by Father Provencher on the present site of St. Boniface. Two years later Rev. John West opened a school on the Winnipeg side of the river. He and his successors organized common schools on the parochial system. In 1854 John Ryerson stated that there were then eight common schools in the country. Seven of these received financial support from the Church Missionary Society, the Governor and Council of Assiniboia, and the Hudson's Bay Company, while the eighth, attached to the Presbyterian congregation, depended on the fees of the pupils. The Roman Catholic Church financed their own schools and seminaries, which were built on the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. Bishop Machray, like Lord Selkirk, favoured the idea of a school for every missionary, and in 1869 there were 16 parish schools in the different parishes of Rupert's Land. The first school master was Mr. Harbidge.

The settlers soon desired something more than the common elementary schools. To meet this need Rev. David and Mrs. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. John McCallum, John Pritchard, Bishop Machray and Rev. John Black, organized the beginnings of higher education in the province. The first technical school was opened by Donald Gunn, of St. Andrews, who had a business college for training the sons of the Hudson's Bay Company factors and others in the business of the fur trade.

These various schools were laying the foundations of educational work but they required some common basis and a public school system was inaugurated almost immediately after the province entered Confederation.

The settlers of the early days in Manitoba were fairly well educated. They had excellent libraries and literary societies, and indeed, the old Red River Library formed the nucleus of the 80,000 books in our Provincial Library today. The library was formed in 1857 by the British troops at Fort Garry and the leading settlers. A subscription library of 200 books had existed earlier than this. About 200 books of the old library were taken over by the province. Governor Archibald, the first governor, formed another library fifty years ago, selections for which were made by Alpheus Todd of the National



OLD FORT GARRY
(From without)



OLD FORT GARRY
(Within)

Library at Ottawa, and of this about 500 volumes are believed to be in existence. The settlers used to get the London Times long after it was printed and one of the early sheriffs used to make it a rule to read each day the Times of the same date a year before.

Up to 1853 the little settlement got only two packets a year, one from York Factory in the summer and one overland from the States in the winter. In 1853 a monthly service was started from Fort Ripley to Fort Garry, and after a bi-weekly service to Fort Pembina was established by the United States Government in 1862, the Red River Settlement received mails weekly from Pembina.

The steamer Pioneer began to ply between Fort Abercrombie on the Red River in Minnesota, and Fort Garry, in 1861. This boat was built on the Red River. The following year the International was put in commission.

In 1843 a census shows that the Red River Colony consisted of 5,143 persons. Of the heads of families 571 were Indians or half-breeds, 152 Canadians, 61 Orkneymen, 49 Scotchmen, 22 Englishmen and 2 Swiss. The Welsh, Italian, Norwegian, Danish, German, Polish and American peoples each had one representative. There were 730 dwellings, 1,219 barns, 18 windmills, 1 water mill, 821 horses, 749 mares, 107 bulls, 2,207 cows, 1,580 calves, 1,976 pigs, and 3,599 sheep.

We have said that the history of the province is a story of romance. It is a tale of struggle by land and sea, of war and piracy, kidnapping and hunting. The struggles between the two great fur companies have already been touched upon. The French took the forts of the north, the British re-captured them. The Nor'-Westers would gain possession of ships, forts, and stores of provisions and furs, and the British would re-capture them the following summer. One one occasion the French garrison were taken as prisoners to England. The French flag floated over Manitoba's ports of Nelson and Churchill on more than one occasion, and even the United States revolution brought war into the north, when the famous French Admiral, la Perouse, captured Fort Prince of Wales at the mouth of the Churchill.

After the troubles with France and the strife between the two fur companies were settled, other difficulties arose between the settlers and the Hudson's Bay Company as to rights of trade and as early as 1849 there were parliamentary discussions in England regarding the matter. In 1857 there was a parliamentary inquiry on which sat such men as Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Lord John Russell and Henry Labouchere. The evidence given by Hudson's Bay officials makes strange reading today. They declared this country would never support a white population or be fit for farming.

From that time the feeling against the Hudson's Bay Company began to grow in strength, and by 1869 the negotiations began for the surrender of the rights claimed by the Company, and the placing of this country under the control of Canada.

A year earlier, in 1868, the Imperial Government had passed the Rupert's Land Act to provide for the surrender of Rupert's Land to the Crown. The transfer from the Crown to Canada was provided for by Section 146 of the British North America Act, 1867, to come into force by Order-in-Council. The Hon. Wm. McDougall was appointed Governor of the new territory, but the people here were by no means willing to agree to the proposal in that form. They wanted self-government, and the country made a province of Canada. Trouble was accentuated by surveyors who began to map out the land. This action led the half-breeds to believe that their farms would be taken away. American residents were naturally anxious that their own country should take over the area. Some officials of the Hudson's Bay Company were dissatisfied with the prospects. The rebels eventually got out of hand, seized the fort and its stores, and proclaimed a provisional government in order to negotiate terms with Canada. Governor McDougall never got further than Pembina. He was not admitted to the country and finally returned to be reprimanded for his proclamations and the assumption of an authority which he did not possess.

Governor-General of Canada

A Great Statesman



LORD DUFFERIN

"Large was his bounty, and his soul sincere."

Riel Rebellion and Birth of Manitoba

Notwithstanding that Mr. McDougall was unable to get into the country, a special commissioner sent from Canada, Mr. Donald A. Smith of the Hudson's Bay Company, arrived at Fort Garry on December 27th, 1869, and held later a meeting of the people. Negotiations went on for some time, but for weeks Mr. Smith was practically a prisoner of Riel, the leader of the malcontents, who imprisoned other loyal settlers. A Provisional Government was subsequently formed and Riel, acting in a very high-handed manner, seized the *Nor'-Wester* newspaper and made many prisoners. One of these, Thomas Scott, was shot at noon on March 4th, 1870, a murder which so stirred up the feeling between the English and French, that all hope of peaceful settlement was over. The body of Scott was never found.

The death of Scott caused high feeling in Eastern Canada and led to demands for reprisals. Meanwhile matters were proceeding at Ottawa. The Manitoba delegates who had been sent by Riel to Ottawa were first arrested but subsequently released, and took part in the discussions which preceded the drafting of the Manitoba Act. This was introduced by Sir John A. Macdonald on May 2nd, 1870. It provided for a province so small that even the English-speaking settlement of Portage la Prairie would not have come within its Western boundary. On May 4th, however, Sir John Macdonald announced a change in the boundaries and an increase in the amount of land to be awarded the half-breeds. The bill provided for the appointment of a Lieutenant-Governor and the establishment of two chambers, a Legislative Council of seven members and a Legislative Assembly of twenty-four. The seat of Government was to be at Fort Garry or within one mile thereof. The four original provinces had had their debts taken over by the Dominion. Manitoba was starting without any debt and would have to assume its share of responsibility for the debt of Canada, so it was given a capital account of \$472,090 on which the Dominion agreed to pay interest at 5%. The capital account on which we receive interest today in lieu of debt and to make up for our share of Canada's debt prior to July 15th, 1870, is the large sum of \$7,631,683.85. Then we received \$30,000 yearly for the support of our Government and Legislature. Now we get \$190,000. An annual grant of 80c per head of our population, which was assumed for this purpose to be 17,000 (actually it was 11,963) was paid us fifty years ago. Last year we were paid this on a population of 613,000. No allowance was made at that time for lands which were not handed to Manitoba as they had been to all other provinces, and were a year later to British Columbia, but as a result of protests in subsequent years we received \$45,000 per annum instead. This was subsequently increased to \$100,000, and we now get \$562,500.

No provision was made at that time for educational grants but in later years two sections in each township surveyed were set aside as an endowment for school purposes, and the province receives the interest on the payment for such lands sold, less the costs of management. Last year we received \$388,043.04 for school purposes from this source.

The income of the province fifty years ago was about \$67,204 received from the Dominion by virtue of the above arrangements. Last year the amount we received from the Dominion alone amounted to \$1,859,034.40. Fifty years ago we had no other sources of revenue, but last year our total revenue including the sum received from the Dominion above mentioned, amounted to \$8,986,076.61. This year it is estimated to reach nearly ten million dollars.

The Canadian Government, while passing the Manitoba Act, had been preparing to send a military expedition to take over the government which had been usurped by Riel. On May 11th, \$1,500,000 was paid to the Hudson's Bay Company. In addition the Company retained certain land around their posts and received one-twentieth of all surveyed lands in each township south of the northern branch of the Saskatchewan River.

"Make ye sure to each his own
That he reap where he hath sown."



WINNIPEG IN 1870

"The Indian's stealthy footstep with the course of commerce meets."

On April 23rd, Earl Granville, the Colonial Secretary, agreed to the sending of 250 British regulars to Manitoba, provided that Canada sent at least 500 armed men with them. It was afterwards arranged that the Imperial troops should be increased in number to 400, Canada paying the expenses of all over 250. The Canadian troops were increased to about 750. Lord Wolseley, then a Colonel, was placed at the head of the troops, which included the 90th Rifles. The soldiers started from Collingwood, Ontario, on May 21st, and on August 21st they arrived at Fort Alexander. The force numbered 1,431, of whom 92 were officers, 1,051 other ranks, 274 voyageurs and 14 guides.

Manitoba was still in the enemy's hands. A rebel flag floated over Fort Garry, and the troops were coming west to restore the authority of the Queen and establish a settled government. Fort Alexander is just north-west of Victoria Beach. The troops in their boats started to cross the lake and on the 22nd of August were at the mouth of the Red River. On reaching Lower Fort Garry, or the old stone fort, a company was landed to stop all persons proceeding to Fort Garry, so that the news might not reach the rebels. About eight o'clock on the morning of August 24th, 1870, fifty years ago, the weary travellers reached Point Douglas and disembarked, threw out a line of skirmishers and marched on Fort Garry. But Riel and his men had fled a quarter of an hour before, leaving their loaded muskets. The gates were wide open and the place empty. The troops marched in and took possession. Constituted authority once more reigned supreme in the newly established province.

There were only a few houses, about a dozen in all, on the site of the future city. The principal settlement was still at Kildonan, but shanties and shacks sprang up, and a strong government became necessary. For nine days the late Lord Strathcona was the virtual governor in charge of the civil administration. He speedily policed the place. On September 2nd, Lieutenant-Governor Adam H. Archibald arrived and was received with a royal salute. He took up his residence in the house formerly occupied by the Hudson's Bay Governor at Fort Garry, and for many years this was used as Government House, until the present Government House on Kennedy Street was built and occupied for the first time, in 1883, curiously enough by the Hon. James C. Aikins, the father of our present Lieutenant-Governor.

The new Lieutenant-Governor promptly took a census and established a mounted police force. On December 30th, 1870, our first elections were held.

First Parliament

The names of the first members are here recorded. They were: Messrs. J. Dubuc, J. Taylor, J. Norquay, J. Sutherland, A. McKay, D. Spence, F. O. Bird, Geo. Klyne, A. Boyd, E. H. G. Hay, J. H. McTavish, M. A. Girard, L. Schmidt, H. J. Clarke, Thos. Bunn, P. Breland, J. Royal, E. Bourke, J. Lemay, P. Delorme, Dr. Bird, T. Howard, A. Beauchemin and Donald A. Smith (afterwards Lord Strathcona) who sat for Winnipeg.

On January 10th, 1871, the Government took office with Hon. H. J. Clarke as Premier and Attorney-General; Hon. M. A. Girard, as Treasurer; Hon. Thos. Howard, Provincial Secretary; and Hon. Alfred Boyd, Minister of Public Works and Agriculture. Hon. James McKay was Minister without portfolio.

On March 2nd, 1871, the Dominion elections took place and Mr. Donald A. Smith was elected as one of the members. Nowadays it is not lawful for a man to sit in both the Provincial Legislature and the Dominion Parliament. On March 10th, the Manitoba Legislative Council was appointed, a sort of local Senate or House of Lords, but Mani-

"Hunters whisper vaguely of the half-forgotten tales
Of phantom herds of buffalo lurking on the midnight trails."



HUNTING THE BUFFALO

"In pastures, measureless as air, the bison is my noble game."

tobans did not long allow this to exist. They abolished it in 1876. Since then we have had only one legislative body, which this year held the fifth session of the fifteenth Legislature and transacted its business in the new building.

Although there was a Government House or residence for the Lieutenant-Governor at Fort Garry there was no place suitable for a Parliament Building. The largest house in the settlement was that of Mr. A. G. B. Bannatyne, after whom Bannatyne Avenue, Winnipeg, is named. This was just east of Main Street. He offered the use of his house and the offer was accepted. The family moved to the second floor and the ground floor was given up for the use of the two Chambers, while the garrets were used for committee rooms. The departmental offices were also established here until accommodation was provided on Post Office Street. The Bannatyne House was used as a Parliament Building until it was destroyed by fire on December 3rd, 1873. Then a move was made to the Court House, which had been erected on the west side of Main Street, near the present site of the Banfield store. Early in the eighties Parliament moved to the oldest of the Court House buildings on Kennedy Street, which had just been erected, and the court room there was used at some inconvenience to the judges. In 1884 the Parliament Buildings, just abandoned, were opened, the speech from the throne in the new Legislative Chamber, by a happy coincidence, being delivered by Lieutenant-Governor Hon. J. C. Aikins, whose son, Sir James Aikins, our present Lieutenant-Governor, had the privilege of delivering the speech from the throne at the opening of the new Parliament Building on Broadway. This magnificent building will stand for many long years as a memorial of what Manitobans achieved in half a century.

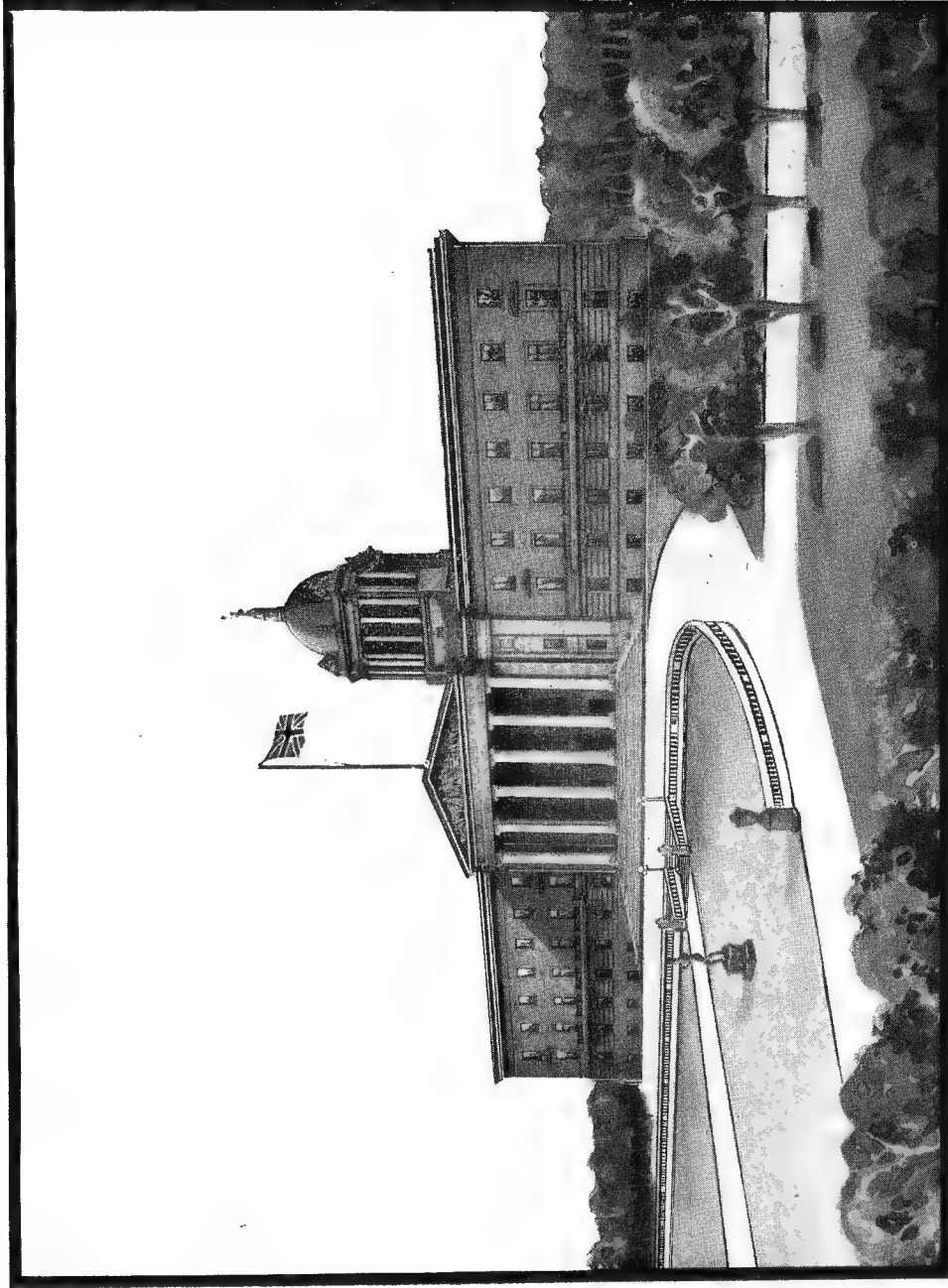
The first Legislature which met in Mr. Bannatyne's house, assembled on March 15th, 1871, with imposing ceremonies. The guard of honour was composed of 100 riflemen. The Hon. Joseph Royal was appointed Speaker. There was no Mace, and Parliament, according to ancient custom, can do business only when the Mace is on the table, so one of the men who had come up with the Wolseley Expedition, and was a carver, took the hub of a Red River cart and carved out a Mace complete with Crown. Then it had to be gilded. The only man in the settlement who could do this work was Premier Clarke, who had been a painter. The Mace was saved from the fire in the first Parliament House and did duty until the present Mace was procured. The old Mace and the cushion it rested on are among the treasures of the Provincial Museum.

Among the acts passed during the first session was one providing for keeping the public accounts in Canadian money. The Hudson's Bay Company had used English money and it was still in general circulation. St. John's and St. Boniface colleges were incorporated. An act was passed enforcing the better observance of the Sabbath, and another to provide a system of education. Altogether forty-three acts were passed in the first session. The actual disbursements of 1870, by the Government of Manitoba, appeared to have been \$6,482.47. In the first three and a half years the first government was compelled to spend \$426,867.61 and found itself in debt by nearly \$140,000 by July 1st, 1874. This state of affairs led to an agitation for "Better Terms and Boundaries."

Indian Treaties

The next two years saw the making of treaties with the Indians, who still roamed the plains. They were uneasy because of the influx of new settlers. The first party of immigrants arrived here on April 26th, 1871, and consisted of eight men from Ontario who took four weeks to get to Fort Garry. Others followed in large numbers.

Over a thousand Indians assembled to meet Governor Archibald on July 27th, 1871, at Lower Fort Garry. He had previously met them on September 13th, 1870, a few days after his arrival in Manitoba. Treaty Number One was signed on August 3rd, and by this



NEW PARLIAMENT BUILDING

large tracts of land called reserves were set aside for the Indians, and a payment of \$15.00 in money or goods to each family arranged. Each Indian, when he settled down on a farm, was given a plough and harrow, a cow and some smaller animals. The treaty was signed by the Governor and others on behalf of the Queen and the Dominion, and by Red Eagle, Bird Forever, Flying Down Bird, Centre of Bird's Tail, Flying Round, Whip-poor-Will, and Yellow Quill, for the Indians. These names are the English translations of the Indian names of the chiefs.

Many subsequent treaties were made but these first bargains are interesting as showing early conditions and the terms made with the Red Man whose land was now to support a much larger population.

Another interesting event about this time was the settlement of claims for damages on the part of the loyal settlers, arising out of the rebellion. These claims amounted to \$333,260.95 and Judge Johnson who investigated them allowed \$85,755.95.

During the rebellion a newspaper called the New Nation had been published. This now ceased to exist and Mr. Robert Cunningham and William Coldwell, one time proprietor of the Nor'-Wester, first published in 1859, joined forces in producing the Manitoban.

Another development was the establishment of a tri-weekly mail service and the completion of a telegraph line to Pembina, which gave Manitoba communication with Eastern Canada via the States. The first telegram was sent by the Lieutenant-Governor on November 20th, 1871, and a reply was received the same day.

Still more exciting was a Fenian raid on Manitoba in which O'Donohue and O'Neill were the leaders. The main body of raiders never got across the border, having been captured at Pembina, where they had taken possession of the Hudson's Bay post, by a squad of United States troops on the morning of October 5th, 1871. O'Donohue who was on the British side, was taken prisoner by two French half-breeds. Riel, who had returned to Manitoba, and his lieutenant, Lepine, on this occasion supported the loyal force which marched to the boundary. Soon after, however, he again left the province. In 1884 he returned and a fresh rebellion broke out, this time in the North-West Territories. Although the people of Manitoba were greatly excited and sent troops to put it down, it was really outside of our Province. In 1885 Riel was captured and tried at Regina. He was executed on November 16th of that year.

Better Terms

Better Terms and Wider Boundaries became a live issue in the province from 1873. It was manifest the new province had been unjustly treated. The subsidy of \$67,000 a year was wholly inadequate from the first, compared with the other provinces, who owned their own lands, minerals and timber. Immediately after the session a delegation was sent to Ottawa to demand better terms and an extension of boundaries that would have given the province an area of 297,000 square miles against the 13,000 actually within its limits under the Manitoba Act. This proposal would have given us ports on Hudson Bay and Lake Superior.

The requests were practically all refused including those for public buildings, and financially, the only concession was a loan of \$25,000, which was to be deducted from capital account. Meanwhile the Government of Manitoba had changed and Hon. N. A. Girard became Premier. Nothing was done with regard to better terms, however, until the Davis Government took office in 1874. Messrs. Davis and Royal visited Ottawa in 1876 and obtained some concessions. The subsidy was increased to \$90,000 and a number of accounts between the two governments were adjusted, leaving a credit of \$120,000. A period of retrenchment followed. It was this which caused the abolition

of the Upper Chamber in 1876. The Norquay Government which came into office in Manitoba in 1878, again took up the matter and secured an increase of the subsidy to \$105,650.04 until 1881. The capital account had been much reduced by loans from the Dominion. These terms were still unsatisfactory to Manitoba, and a loan of \$10,000 for educational purposes did not satisfy the people as they requested the control of their own school lands. In 1881 the boundaries were extended, but beyond allowing Manitoba to withdraw the sum of \$100,000 from its capital, the Dominion was unwilling to make further concessions. The extension of the boundaries led to fresh trouble as Ontario claimed some of the territory given to Manitoba and in 1892 a new arrangement was made. The subsidy was increased from \$30,000 to \$50,000. The per capita grant of 80c a head was raised to that amount on 150,000 of population, or \$120,000 yearly, and \$45,000 was allowed in lieu of lands. The total income from the Dominion was thus raised to \$227,153. The troubles over the boundary were not settled for years. In 1885 the province again secured an increase. The capital account was to be based on a population of 125,000, \$100,000 a year was to be paid in lieu of lands, and all swamp lands were to be turned over to the province, and a grant of 150,000 acres of land was made for the University which had been incorporated in 1877.

The agitation regarding the boundaries continued to go on until the last adjustment was made in 1912, when the area of the province was extended to give us access to the shores of Hudson Bay and a total territory of 251,832 square miles. Our unsold swamp lands were surrendered but we received an allowance of \$562,000 in lieu. Our capital account was largely increased and our subsidy or allowance for government increased to \$190,000 with the results already shown. Our total income from this source is, today, \$2,000,000, instead of the \$67,000 of fifty years ago.

Manitobans will not, however, and should not be satisfied until we are placed on the same footing as the older provinces, and our public lands, minerals, timber, and other natural resources are administered by and for the people of Manitoba. At present these are managed for us by a government nearly 2,000 miles away. Our development is retarded and our splendid heritage dissipated without proper return.

School Question

In 1871 Manitoba introduced a system of separate schools. This proved unsatisfactory and in 1890 the system was abolished, and what were known as national schools were introduced under the administration of a Minister of the Crown and an Advisory Board. This led to long and bitter struggles in the courts, before the Privy Council and in the Dominion Parliament, Manitobans claiming and establishing that they alone had the right to control education in their province. A compromise was made and the Act amended in 1897. Bi-lingual teaching, under certain conditions, was permitted, but as immigration from foreign countries increased, this arrangement became unworkable. In 1916 bi-lingualism was abolished and provision made for compulsory school attendance.

Railway Troubles

The other outstanding question in Manitoba's history related to railways. Difficulties of transportation have already been referred to. The people naturally wanted to improve those conditions. A policy was planned which promised communication from Emerson to Hudson Bay. The first railway bills passed providing for the line from Emerson were disallowed by the Dominion Government which had given a monopoly to the Canadian Pacific Railway. This nearly led to armed resistance, but eventually Manitoba won out on the issue and obtained the right to build what railways she pleased under provincial charters.



MANITOBA HARVEST SCENE

"Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness."

The Hudson Bay Railway was promised by the Dominion Government and has been a live question for nearly fifty years. The road is still in process of construction and it is hoped by all Manitobans that it will be finished during 1920. It will give us a port on the great inland sea of Hudson Bay, the Mediterranean of America. It is believed that this route is navigable long enough in each year to furnish a short route from the prairies to the British Isles and Europe, saving many hundreds of miles of weary and expensive railway haul eastward. This railway is also opening up vast mineral resources of gold, copper, marble and other valuable products. The Hudson Bay Railway will make us a maritime province with a front door to the world, on a coast already of surpassing interest in the history of Manitoba.

Fifty Years of Progress

The first public school was opened in the province in 1871. Today there are 2,017 public schools with some 3,200 teachers and an enrolment of 114,662. The University in its various faculties enrolled last year 1,464 students, and 1,122 took the courses offered at the Agricultural College.

Manitoba first obtained railway connection in 1878, when the first regular railway train arrived at St. Boniface on December 9th. This was the Pembina branch of the C.P.R., the last spike of which had been driven on December 3rd, and congratulations passed between the mayors of Winnipeg and St. Paul on the "two cities at length connected by iron bands." There are now 4,460 miles of railway in operation in the province.

In 1876 crop reports were obtained for the whole province and the total yields were found to be: wheat, 480,000 bushels; barley, 173,000 bushels; oats, 380,000 bushels; peas, 45,000 bushels; potatoes, 460,000 bushels; turnips and other roots, 700,000 bushels. Wheat that year averaged 32 ½ bushels per acre. The first shipment of wheat known as Manitoba No. 1 hard, was made that year and consisted of 857 bushels, consigned to Steele Brothers, the seed house in Toronto. It was shipped by Higgins and Young. Ten years later so great was the progress that the wheat crop of Manitoba was 5,893,480 bushels. In 1915, a banner year, Manitoba produced over 96,000,000 bushels of wheat, most of which was shipped to feed the allies in the Great War. In the last year, which was in some parts of the province a poor one, our total wheat crop was 41,000,000 bushels, oats 57,000,000 bushels, barley 17,000,000 bushels, potatoes 5,280,000 bushels, while the total value of crops was \$162,462,200. In addition we marketed cattle, sheep, swine, and produced dairy products, eggs, poultry, wool and honey to the value of another \$191,730,000.

From 11,963, our population has increased to 613,000 in fifty years. Great cities have been raised where once shacks stood out against the sky line. The oil lamp and the tallow candle of 1870 have been replaced, first by gas, with which Winnipeg was lit on June 1st, 1882, and now by electric light, which is found in all the cities and in many of the farm homes. Already a great Power Transmission Line to carry light and power is running out from Winnipeg to Portage la Prairie as the first link in a system which will one day radiate all over the province.

Manitoba has made a start in manufacturing, and already has 834 manufacturing establishments, employing nearly 20,000 workers, with a pay roll of \$19,000,000 and a total value of products of over \$62,000,000.

The facts relating to Manitoba's contribution to the Great War are very significant. Just fifty years ago cables had to be sent to England to get permission for a small force of Imperial troops to come here to restore order. During the Great War Manitoba sent to help the Empire a force of 61,543 officers and men, or over three divisions. No province



ARMISTICE DAY, NOVEMBER 11th, 1918
CORNER OF MAIN STREET AND PORTAGE AVENUE, WINNIPEG
"The Redman haunts her portals and the Paleface treads her streets"

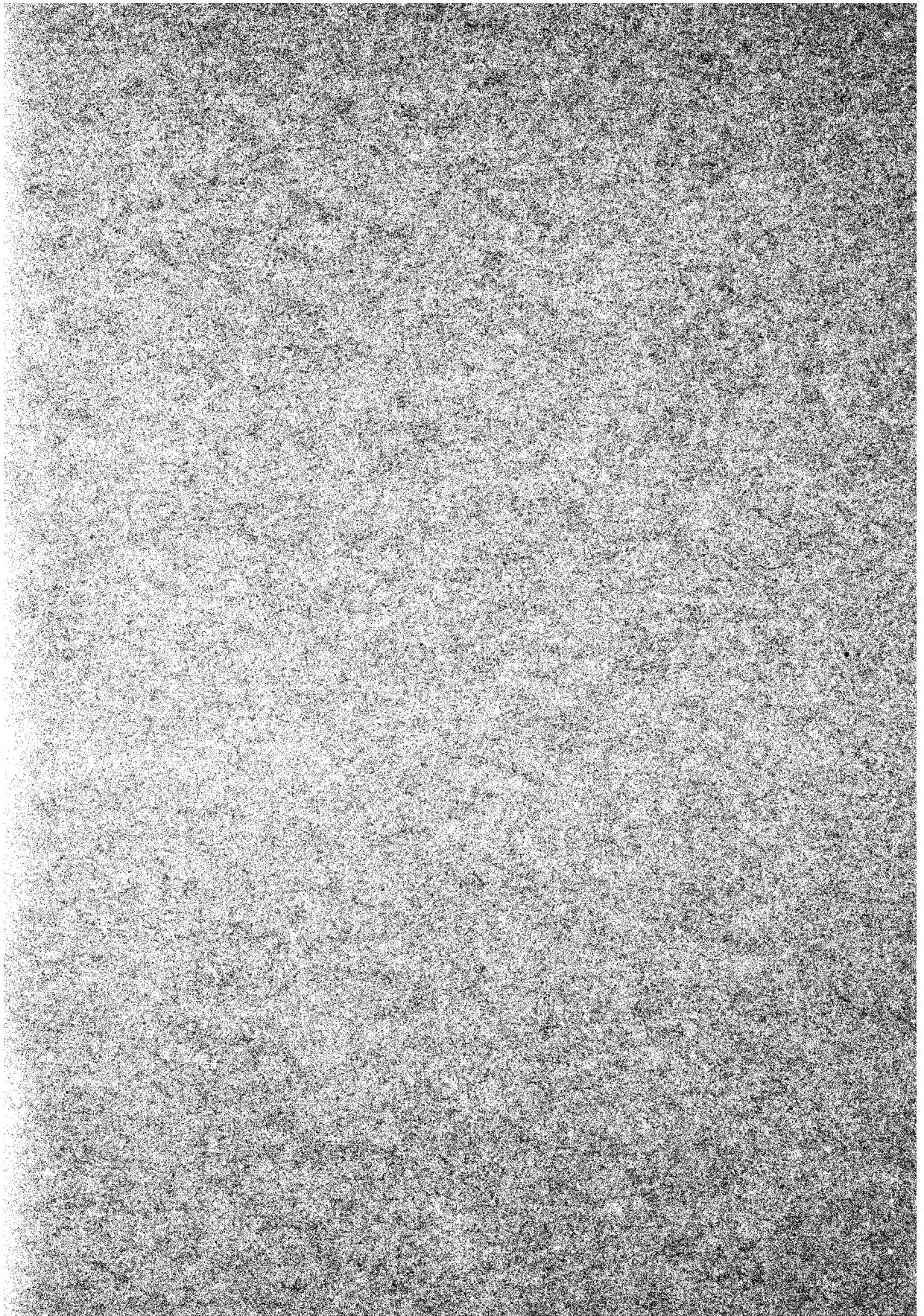
has a finer record in comparison with its population. For the patriotic fund the people of Manitoba raised by personal contribution or levy a total of \$6,000,000, or about \$10 for each man, woman and child in the province. Our total contributions to Victory Loans have been \$117,000,000.

Conclusion

The story of Manitoba, however, lies not in the past but in the future. In material wealth, social progress and advancement of all kinds, the past fifty years, despite all the drawbacks of pioneer times, have indeed been golden, and the promise for the future in these particulars is indeed great; but the true promise of Manitoba's history lies in the soul of its people, in the moral and spiritual progress they will make. Already the whole Dominion and the United States are watching with interest the great reforms which Manitobans are undertaking in social matters. We have led the way in many things during the past few years. Out of the fiery furnace of the World War we have come humbled and purified, and the next fifty years will test the sincerity of our convictions and the value of the lessons we have learned. Certainly high things should be expected from Manitoba—the Province of "GOD'S VOICE."



"To steel our souls against the lust of ease;
To find our welfare in the general good;
To hold together merging all degrees
In one wide brotherhood."



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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA